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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/886,486	06/22/2001	Edward J. Hogan	AP33454-070457.1023	6096
21003	7590	10/29/2004	EXAMINER	
BAKER & BOTTS 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			WORJLOH, JALATEE	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		3621		

DATE MAILED: 10/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/886,486	HOGAN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jalatee Worjoh	3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 11 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 5 and 7-10 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is responsive to the amendment filed on July 28, 2004.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicants argue that claims 1 and 6 are statutory under 35 USC 101. However, the examiner disagrees. To overcome this rejection, it is suggested that Applicants include hardware within the claims' body (*e.g. a computer generating...*).
3. Applicant's arguments, see page 8, filed July 28, 2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1 under 35 USC 103 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of US Patent No. 6000832 to Franklin et al.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent NO. 6000832 to Franklin et al.

Franklin et al. disclose generating a secret key associated with said payment account number (see col. 4, lines 59-63), using said secret key to generate a message authentication code specific to said transaction (see col. 5, lines 26-29), generating an authorization request message

including said message authentication code, forwarding said authorization request message over said payment network to said check site (i.e. “issuing bank”) for verifying the authenticity of said message authentication code, verifying the message authentication code by said check site using said secret key, and responding to said authorization request message over said payment network based on said available funds and said transaction amount (see col. 5, lines 59-67; col. 6, lines 1-16).

Referring to claim 2, Franklin et al. disclose said authorization request message is routed over said payment network based on a special bank identification number (i.e. “prefix”) corresponding to said check site (see fig. 5, col. 10, liens 17-19; col. 11, lines 46-50). Notice. Franklin et al. teach “routing to issuing bank via the payment network is handled through conventional techniques.” It is known in the art that routing based on a bank identification number is a conventional technique.

Referring to claim 3, Franklin et al. disclose providing software at a user location for generating said secret key (see col. 5, lines 24-28).

Referring to claim 4, Franklin et al. disclose said payment account number is issued by an issuer and said response is provided by said issuer (see col. 5, liens 15-18, 59-63).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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7. Claims 6 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin et al. in view of US Patent No. 5991412 to Wissenburgh et al.

Franklin et al. disclose generating a per-card key (i.e. "secret key") associated with said payment account number (see col. 4, lines 59-63), generating a message authentication code (MAC) using said per-card key (see col. 5, lines 26-39), generating a MAC verification request including said payment account number and said MAC and verifying said MAC (see col. 5, lines 59-67; col. 6, lines 1-16). Also, Franklin et al. teach "a temporary transaction number that is specific to a single transaction" (see col. 5, lines 36-39), which implies that for any additional transaction, a new MAC and number (i.e. "expected transaction sequence number") will be created, and steps (a) –(d) of applicant's claim will be implemented. Thus, Franklin et al. suggest steps (e)-(j) of applicant's claim. Also, Wissenburgh et al. suggests steps (e)-(j) are (see col. 1, lines 50-66). Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Franklin et al. to explicitly include the steps of creating an expected transaction sequence number (ETSN) for said MAC based on said verification, providing said check site with reference data associated with the ETSN, generating a second message authentication code using said ETSN and said per-card key, routing said second message authentication code to check site based on said BIN associated with said check site, determining said per-card key associated with the payment account number of an unverified message authentication code having associated ETSN and reference data, and verifying said second message authentication code by said check site using said determined per-card key, and said associated ETSN and reference data. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security for the transported data.

Referring to claim 11, Franklin et al. disclose providing reference data to the check site (see claim 6 above). Franklin et al. do not expressly disclose the data includes a number of months indicator. However, this difference is only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and is not functionally in the step recited. To providing said check site with reference data would be performed the same regardless of the data. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, see *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *in re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide said check site with reference data including any type of information because such data does not functionally relate to the steps in the method.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. Claims 7-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims (**specifically, the limitations of claim 7**).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jalatee Worjloh whose telephone number is 703-305-0057. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays 8:30 - 7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703-305-9768. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306 for Regular and After Final Actions and 703-746-9443 for Non-Official/Draft.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, V.A., Seventh floor receptionist.

October 19, 2004

JAMES P. TRAMMELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3300